

Spin-label study of the microtubule modifier effect on the aqueous-medium microviscosity of nonhardened and cold-hardened winter wheat seedlings

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Abstract

The influence of the substances modifying the microtubule structure, colchicine and dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO), on the aqueous-medium microviscosity of nonhardened and cold-hardened winter wheat seedlings has been studied with a spin label (1-oxyl-2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-oxypiperidine). The correlation times T_c of rotational diffusion of the labels were found with values for the cold-hardened plants lower than those for the plants grown in optimal temperature conditions. In case of nonhardened tissues colchicine gives the slight increase and DMSO causes the slight decrease of τ_c values in comparison with data for control variant without any treatment. It was explained by opposite changes in plasma membrane permeability and/or hydration or dehydration of cytoskeleton under the treatments. However, these substances do not influence the aqueous medium microviscosity of cold-hardened seedlings. This fact indicates the essential change of the tubulin proteins under cold exposure. ©Springer-Verlag 1999 Printed in Austria.
